

Our Guiding Light

Jesus said

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my Disciples, if you have love for one another. (John 13-34-35)

KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

I can't start this week's newsletter with writing about anything other than last Sunday's Cookham VE Day picnic. What a magnificent event! I hope that those of you who were able to go along enjoyed it as much as I did. Enormous thanks go to the Cookham Village Events Committee, who, steered by Kate Winrow-Davies, did a superb job bringing everyone together and giving so many children a platform on which to shine. Our choir did a wonderful job entertaining the crowds with a medley of World War 2 songs and the eighty plus children who danced to 'Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree' were spectacular. It was a joy to be part of such a special event.

Celebrating VE Day in School:

Yesterday, the children looked fantastic dressed up in 1940s clothing and the school looked magnificent decked with bunting. Thanks to your fundraising through the PTA, we were able to invite the company 'As Creatives' into school to help us think more deeply about aspects of VE Day. The team whose vision is to improve the future of children by enhancing learning experiences through activities that place creativity at the heart of curriculum learning, took us on a journey discovering everything there is to know about the end of the war. We began with a whole school assembly then each class took part in a workshop with a particular theme. We found out what people wore, how they travelled to big centres including London where parties were happening, what they ate and how the Royal Family joined in. We also used the information boards which you may have seen on Sunday to find out about how people in Cookham were affected by the war and we observed the two minutes silence at noon. Year 6 ended the day considering what people hoped the world would look like after VE Day and whether those dreams came true. It was a poignant way to finish. Lots of pictures were posted on our social media site X for you to enjoy.

In assemblies leading up to the event, we have all focused on the importance of marking this very special anniversary and considered what peace means to us now and how we can have a positive impact on ensuring that values like respect, cooperation and kindness prevent conflict. It has been a through-provoking week which we hope the children will remember and look back on with fond memories. Thank you for helping us to make the week special for all.

Open House:

It was lovely to see that so many of you were able to take the time to stay behind at pick-ups this week to visit your child's class, speak to their class teacher and see their books. We know how much the children enjoy sharing with you all they've learnt. The next time we formally invite you in to see what they've achieved will be at our Arts and Culture event on the afternoon of Friday 13th June. Details will be published in newsletters closer to the time.

Goodbye Ducklings:

After the excitement created by the ducklings hatching a fortnight ago, we prepared to say goodbye to them yesterday. They were collected and returned to the farm from where they came, not before every class had an opportunity to meet them. This is a project that is funded by our PTA every year for which we are incredibly grateful.

PTA News:

As a reminder, the PTA would like to invite you to their Eurovision Party on Saturday 17th May at 7pm in the school hall. Please see the flyer and PTA social media sites for more details. This event will help to raise funds so that activities like us having the ducklings and 'As Creatives' can happen in the future. Your fund raising also paid for the three new picnic tables outside Year 3 and 4 which we are delighted with. Thank you.

On Friday 23rd May, as you will see in the calendar, we are holding a non-uniform day in exchange for items donated to the PTA tombola ahead of HT Fest. The team are looking for items such as books, wine, toiletries, games, toys etc that are new or in excellent condition. Items should be brought to the front entrance of school on the day where the team will be happy to take them from you. In addition the children have been invited to design a logo for this year's event. Please see the flyer which has been sent to you for further details. The deadline for handing in ideas is Monday (12th May) so with only the weekend to get creative, they need to be quick!

Key Stage 2 Standard Attainment Tests (SATs):

Next week Year 6 will be taking their SATs. These are national tests that all children are required to sit before moving into Key Stage 3. The letter that was sent to you at the beginning of the week with details of when the exams are happening, what your child needs for each day and what time to arrive for our special SATs breakfast if they choose to come to it, has been attached again for your convenience. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing Moorhen Class the very best of luck.

So that you are all clear on the summer national testing programme I have resent today the letter which you received back in October. Information about national test for Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 are explained in it.

Clubs:

As a reminder, here is a list of clubs running this term.

| Club | Year Group | Day/Time | Contact Details | Arrangements for drop-off/pick-up |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Early Bird Club | All | Start time 8am each day of the week | No requirement to book, simply drop off anytime between 8am and 8:30am. Payment should be made through your ScoPay account | Arrive through the back door of the hall |
| After School Provision | All | From 3:15pm | Book directly: holytrinity@wraparoundcare4u.com | See WrapAroundCare4U for details: information sent out via email |
| iPro Football | KS2 boys | Monday lunchtime | Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk (school PE kit may be worn) | N/A |
| Ukulele Club | KS2 | Monday lunchtime - All welcome | Children should speak to Mrs Lucas | N/A |
| Art Club | Year 3 & 4 | Monday after school, finish time: 5pm | Book directly by contacting Mrs Hyslop: Nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk | Collect from the front entrance of school |
| Playball | EYFS & Year 1 | Monday, finish time: 4pm | Book online: http://www.playballkids.com/f/southbucks | Collect from the back door of the school hall |
| Junior Choir | Years 3 & 4 | Tuesday before school, start time: 8am | larainebrownbda@gmail.com | Arrive through the back door of the hall |
| Netball | Years 4 & 5 | Tuesday before school, start time: 8am | Please speak to Mr Lucas for more details | Arrive at the side gate promptly at 8am ready to be let in by Mr Lucas |
| Spanish Club | Year 2 | Tuesday before school at 8.20am | Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow (see above) | Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:20am |
| Art Club | Year 5 & 6 | Tuesday after school, finish time: 5pm | Book directly by contacting Mrs Hyslop: Nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk | Collect from the front entrance of school |
| Little Samurai | EYFS, Y1 & Y2 | Tuesday, finish time: 4:15pm | Book directly: 07828 534817 www.SamuraiKickboxing.com info@SamuraiKickboxing.com | Collect from the back door of the school hall |
| Hand Chime Music Club | Y2 & Y3 | Tuesday, finish time 4:15pm | Led by Miss Smith Limited spaces – please email the office to confirm a space | Collect from the front entrance of school |
| Rock Steady | EYFS – Y6 | Wednesday morning | Book directly: 0330 113 0330 Rocksteadymusicschool.com | N/A lessons take place during the school day |
| Spanish Club | Year 1 | Wednesday before school at 8.20am | Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above) | Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:20am |
| iPro Football | KS2 girls | Wednesday lunchtime | Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk (school PE kit may be worn) | N/A |
| Spanish Club | Year 3 | Wednesday after school, finish time 3:50pm | Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above) | Collect from the front entrance of school |
| Yoga & Mindfulness | Year 1 - 6 | Wednesday, finish time 4:30pm | Book directly by contacting Sallie Windsor: 07846 992824 sallie.windsor@nurturekidsyoga.com | Collect from the back door of the school hall |
| Senior Choir | Years 5 & 6 | Thursday before school, start time: 8am | larainebrownbda@gmail.com | Arrive through the back door of the hall |
| Young Samurai | Years 3 - 6 | Thursday after school, finish time: 4:15pm | Book directly: 07828 534817 www.SamuraiKickboxing.com or info@SamuraiKickboxing.com | Collect from the back door of the school hall |
| Spanish Club | Year 4 | Friday before school at 8.20am | Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above) | Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:20am |
| Maths Club | Year 3 (by invitation) | Friday before school at 8:15am | Organised by Mrs Neal with a rota of children invited to attend every few weeks | Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:10am |
| Sewing Club | Year 1 – 6 | Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm | Book directly: 07782 253565 anita@dhaaga-sewing.co.uk | Collect from the front entrance of school |
| IPro Football | Years 1 - 6 | Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm | Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk Children attending this club are permitted to come to school wearing their school P.E. kit with a football shirt to change into at the end of the day if they wish. | Collect from the back gate |
| Maestro Music Lessons | EYFS – Y6 | Various days during the week | To find out more, go to: Homepage - Berkshire Music Trust (berksmusictrust.org.uk) | Times of lessons determined by Maestros |

Summer Music Concert:

Auditions for our summer concert took place this morning with many children choosing to put themselves forward; if all took part, we would have a concert lasting well into the night! As a result, we're having to be a little ruthless. Mrs Brown, in making the selection, will take a number of things into account: how well prepared the children are, what standard they perform at, what year group they are in and whether they will have chance in the future to participate once their skills are a little more refined. That said, any child who is unsuccessful this time is very welcome to perform for their peers in assembly. They simply need to speak to me or their class teacher and we will do everything we can to make it happen.

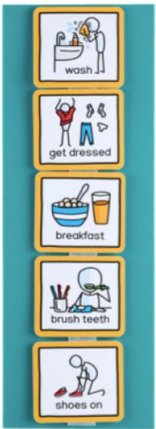
Our summer music evening will take place on Thursday the 5th of June at 6.00pm in the hall led by Mrs Brown. It is sure to be a wonderful evening.

Year 5's Trip to see the Swan Upping:

With the deadline now passing for you to inform us if you would rather your child didn't attend the Swan Upping on 15th July owing to the media being there, we are delighted that everyone will be going along. This will give our Year 5 children the chance to learn about this historic event and its significance in the past and the present day. They can all look forward to seeing very young cygnets at close hand and answering questions posed by The King's Swan Marker about swans, their ecology and the tradition of Swan Upping. If you are able to accompany us there and back, we would be most grateful. Speak to Miss Buckley or Mrs Baillie to express your interest.

News from Miss Buckley about the 'Attachment Aware Schools' Award': How do we support children to meet their potential at Holy Trinity?

As part of our journey towards becoming a Gold Award Attachment Aware School, we're sharing simple ways we support emotional wellbeing in school—and how you can help continue this support at home.



Consistency and Predictability – At School and at Home

At Holy Trinity, we know that **children feel safest when their world feels consistent and predictable**. That sense of security helps them manage their emotions, focus their attention, and feel confident enough to learn.

In school, this looks like:

- Clear daily routines and visual timetables.
- Consistent adult responses to behaviour—calm, fair, and kind.
- Shared language around feelings and behaviour expectations.

We aim to provide a calm, structured environment where children know what to expect and what's expected of them. This sense of emotional safety helps them feel grounded and ready to engage with their learning.

How you can support this at home:

- **Stick to routines** as much as possible—bedtimes, mealtimes, or even a simple “getting ready for school” checklist can give your child structure and reassurance.
- **Talk through what's coming up**—for example, “After tea, we'll have a bit of playtime and then start getting ready for bed.” Knowing what's next reduces anxiety.
- **Use consistent responses** to behaviour—this helps your child know where the boundaries are and gives them a sense of fairness.
- **Stay calm and clear** in moments of stress—when adults model calmness and consistency, children feel safer and more able to self-regulate.

You don't need to follow a rigid schedule—just having a rhythm and tone that your child can rely on helps create the stability they need to flourish.

Secondary Transfer Test (11 Plus):

As a partner school working with Buckinghamshire Council, we have authority to carry out and invigilate transfer tests here in school. In reaching the qualifying mark in these tests, children gain entry to a grammar school. However, in order for your child to take the tests you have to complete the registration process yourself. It went live last Friday. A leaflet and PowerPoint relevant to those of you with children in Year 5 has been sent out today but if you have any unanswered questions about the process, please contact Buckinghamshire Council at: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/contact-school-admissions/>

Trinity Tots:

On Wednesday from 9:30 – 11:30am at The Parish Centre in Cookham next to Holy Trinity Church a new toddler group are meeting. Stories, singing, play, arts and crafts all form part of the provision with refreshments provided for parents. To find out more, contact Lara on 07421 193352. A flyer has been sent out today containing information.

Confirmation Classes:

Starting on Monday (12th May) Father Stephen will be running confirmation classes at the vicarage. These are informal, discussion-based sessions allowing faith to be explored in a relaxed and welcoming setting. If anyone would like to be baptised, confirmed or formally received into the Anglican Communion you are warmly invited to attend. The sessions will continue on Mondays on: 19th May, 26th May, 2nd June, 9th June and 16th June with the confirmation service taking place in Bray on Sunday 13th July at 4pm. To find out more contact Father Stephen (01628 529183) or the Parish Office (01628 529661 / office@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk)

Smartphone Free Childhood:

I hope you saw the information I shared in last week's newsletter about our support of a [Smartphone Free Childhood](#). I am delighted to inform you that after slipping to second place in the leader board of schools in Berkshire whose parents have signed the [Smartphone Free Childhood Parent Pact](#) we are now back up in the top spot thanks to several more of you signing up. Thank you.

This morning I was at a meeting with head teachers from sixty schools all committed to taking collective action to make RBWM a Smartphone Free borough. The reason this campaign is gaining momentum is down to the recent research that has been carried out, all of which points to the negative impact Smartphones can have on our children. The key factors are: harmful content, addiction, academic distraction, grooming, cyberbullying, mental illness and 'opportunity cost'. To find out more about what research has unearthed on these specific areas, please refer to the leaflet that has been sent to you today as an attachment. If you are yet to sign the pact and would like to show your support for the campaign, go to [Sign the Berkshire Parent Pact](#) Firmly believing in this campaign and anxious to protect our young people, I am proud to be back up at the top of the leader board and would like to stay there.

Finally, this morning I spoke to a parent who informed me that schools in Wooburn Green have recently issued an alert to parents following an incident in Wooburn Green Park on Wednesday. I have attached the information that was sent out, for your attention.

Have a wonderful weekend and we shall look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

12th – 15th May

12th May

12th May

17th May

20th May

20th May

22nd May

22nd May

23rd May

KS2 SATs

[Deadline for submitting entries for the HT Fest logo competition](#)

Mathemagical Competition for selected Year 4 pupils (4.30pm till 6pm) at Cookham Dean CE Primary School, (selected pupils informed by letter)

PTA Eurovision Song Party

Year 6 Quadkids Athletics Festival, Newlands Girls School, 3:45-5:15pm (selected children informed by letter)

MBR Volunteers Meeting 7:45pm at the Maidenhead Community Centre (see above)

Y3 Junior Music Festival Rehearsal - Courthouse School am (details sent out in a letter)

Year 5 Visit to Holy Trinity Church ahead of Heritage Day [postponed until 6th June](#)

Mufti Day – in exchange for tombola items for HT Fest

26th May – 30th May Half Term Break

4th June

5th June

6th June

6th June

7th June

8th June

9th – 13th June

12th June

13th June

17th June

18th June

19th June

PTA Meeting

[Summer Music Concert 6pm](#)

[Year 5 Visit to Holy Trinity Church ahead of Heritage Day](#)

PTA Disco (details to follow)

Royal Windsor Flower Show

Special Eucharist to Celebrate the Opening of Holy Trinity Church, Cookham 11am

Arts and Culture Week

Y3 Junior Music Festival Rehearsal - Courthouse School am (details sent out in a letter)

Arts and Culture Week Performance pm

EYFS Trip to Braywick Nature Centre

Arthur Burgin Science Exhibition – Year 6

Mathemagical Competition for selected Year 2 pupils (4.15pm till 6pm) at Waltham St Lawrence Primary School, (team to be decided)

23rd – 27th June

23rd – 3rd July

26th June

4th July

Y6 Residential Trip

Sports Fortnight

Junior Music Festival – A Night at the Movies 12 noon – 8:15pm (please refer to letter)

Sports Day (no after school clubs operating) [Events from 9am until lunchtime when you are invited to join us for a whole school picnic on the field as in previous years](#)

5th July

9th July

11th July

15th July

17th July

HT Fest

Rock Steady Concert am

Spanish Assembly 9:30am

[Year 5 Trip to The Ferry to see the Swan Upping event 1:15pm \(details above\)](#)

Last day of term & Leavers' Service